



Town of Hopkinton

Housing Committee

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HOPKINTON HOUSING COMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES Thursday, May 18, 2023

CALL TO ORDER:

Ms. Morin called the meeting of the Hopkinton Housing Committee to order at 5:32 p.m. on Thursday, May 18, 2023, in the large meeting room in the Hopkinton Town Hall.

Members Present: Dawn Berry, Louise Carr, Craig Dunning, David Feller, Tricia Morin, Jack Ruderman, Richard Steele

Members Absent: Thomas Lipoma, Katherine Mitchell

Staff Present: Anna Wells-Economic Development Director, Karen Robertson Planning Director

Others Present: Ivy Vann-Housing Consultant, via Zoom

Ms. Morin asked for a volunteer to take minutes due to Mr. Lipoma (Secretary) having a previous commitment. Mr. Feller volunteered to take minutes.

Ms. Morin asked if everyone had reviewed the minutes of May 4, 2023. Mr. Dunning made a motion to approve seconded by Mr. Ruderman. The motion passed unanimously.

A brief explanation of the “Padlet” app was discussed by Ms. Morin and Ms. Vann. All were encouraged to sign up in order to be able to see relevant documents to our purpose.

Review of the Housing Needs Assessment Report

Mr. Ruderman started the questions off requesting to add Statewide Median Family Income to the tables on page 1 & 2. Mr. Steele raised concern about certain assertions made in the report that seemed to be opinion rather than fact. He referred to census data that used estimates throughout the report. These estimates were used to form opinions that could be misread by future readers of the report. A discussion with all members took place on this topic. Ms. Robertson expressed concern that some of the language as well and was also concerned about how future readers interpreted this data.

The inclusion of specific locations and potential lots was discussed. It was suggested that a closer review of the 25 largest parcels be analyzed to see if they contained “unbuildable” portions of land in order to reduce the maximum number of lots, or simply to add a comment on those specific parcels. After a lengthy discussion it was agreed that this detailed information be included only as a Supplement which would include a disclaimer that the lots are a maximum number and does not take into consideration wetlands, setbacks, conservation easements, etc. The main report will only refer to totals of acreage and maximum potential lots by Zone.

Other comments, questions, and suggested changes to the report were discussed. Ms. Vann said she would have another draft of the report before the next meeting on June 1st.

Community Outreach

Discussion regarding the type, timing, and location of our “kickoff” outreach event took place. The goal was to get this done before the end of school to try to have access to as many people as possible before the summer vacation season starts. After reviewing dates, the committee decided to try and secure the Slusser Center on Saturday June 10th from 11:00am – 1:00pm. Possibly an ice cream social. Funds are eligible for reimbursement through the current Phase I Grant.

The main purpose of this event is to start the housing conversation in Hopkinton. The committee’s task is to provide people with information to talk about and mainly to listen to residents thoughts and ideas.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Thursday, June 1, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. at the Town Hall. The focus of the meeting will be:

- Review of 2nd Draft of the Housing Assessment Needs Report;
- Community outreach plans (event, dates, locations);
- Prepare list of groups to be contacted;
(Rotary, Lions, Odd Fellows, American Legion, PTO, Grange, all church’s, senior lunch, etc.)

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Feller made a motion to adjourn at 7:41pm, seconded by Mr. Ruderman. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

David Feller